

PONTYPOOL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1960



F. J. HALLINAN,

M.B.E. (Mil.), M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

*Area Medical Officer, No. 7 Area,
Monmouthshire,*

*District Medical Officer,
Pontypool Urban District*

LIBRARY BUILDINGS,
HANBURY ROAD,
PONTYPOOL, MON.

APRIL, 1961

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PONTYPOOL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1960

Area of District	15,907 acres
Rateable Value (1.4.'60)	£448,622
Estimated product of 1d. rate (1.4.'60)	£1,730
Number of inhabited houses (1.4.'60)	12,791
Number of Council-owned houses (31.12.'60)	3,773
Number of Council houses built during 1960	73
Population (Estimated mid-1960)	39,720
Number of live births (1960)	587
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	14.8
Number of illegitimate live births	20
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.4%
Number of stillbirths	14
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	23.3
Total live and stillbirths	601
Number of infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	15
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births – total	25.5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births – legitimate	26.5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births – illegitimate	NIL
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	22.2
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	17.0
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	39.9
Number of maternal deaths (including abortion)	NIL
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	NIL
Number of deaths (1960)	498
Death rate per 1,000 population	12.5

Year	Births	Deaths
1948	744	478
1949	740	531
1950	743	510
1951	697	568
1952	699	507
1953	683	466
1954	628	480
1955	563	510
1956	571	543
1957	593	475
1958	623	461
1959	569	471
1960	587	498

PONTYPOOL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Councillors:

Chairman : E. H. PARKER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : R. K. TELFER

Wards:

Garndiffaith:

Vacant Seat

N. TOWNSEND

G. MILES

Abersychan:

W. C. CHIVERS

D. T. GULLICK

W. HIGGS

Snatchwood:

C. H. NEWMAN

E. H. PARKER, J.P.

R. K. TELFER

Wainfelin:

Mrs. W. M. HILL

H. J. ROSSER

G. R. TRIM, J.P.

Pontypool:

J. H. EVANS

W. G. HILLIER

Mrs. F. M. PROSSER

Mrs. M. STRICKLAND

Pontymoile:

W. L. JACKSON, M.M. B.E.M.

Mrs. M. L. LEE, J.P.

Griffithstown:

C. J. R. IRVING

R. E. MOORE

Sebastopol:

H. BULLIMORE

J. L. WHITTINGTON

New Inn:

A. C. JONES

J. R. KILMISTER

Council Meeting—Last Tuesday in the month at 6 p.m.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Public Health Committee is a major one comprising all members of the Council.

Chairman: Councillor H. J. ROSSER

Public Health Committee Meeting:

Tuesday following the first Monday in each month.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health . . . F. J. HALLINAN, M.B.E. (Mil.),
M.B., B.CH., B.A.O. (N.U.I.),
D.P.H. (Wales).

Official Address: Library Buildings, Pontypool.

Telephone: Pontypool 700 (Ext. 40).

Senior Public Health Inspector . . . J. M. WILLIAMS, M.A.P.H.I.

Official Address: Library Buildings, Pontypool.

Telephone: Pontypool 700 (Ext. 41).

District Public Health Inspector . . . B. GILFORD, M.R.S.I., A.M.I.S.E.,
M.R.I.P.H. & H.

District Public Health Inspector . . . J. M. JONES, Cert. R.S.I.

District Public Health Inspector . . . K. H. D. WILKINS, A.R.S.I.,
M.R.I.P.H. & H.

Clerk to the Department . . . Mrs. E. B. DAVIES

All the Public Health Inspectors are qualified Inspectors
of meat and other foods.

The Senior Public Health Inspector and District Inspector Wilkins
possess the Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

OTHER COUNCIL OFFICIALS

Clerk of the Council H. COOK (Solicitor)

Deputy Clerk A. E. LUFFMAN, ESQ.

Treasurer and Accountant T. R. JAMES, ESQ.

Engineer and Surveyor W. BROWN, A.M.I.MUN.E.,
A.M.I.C.E.

Deputy Engineer and Surveyor A. SCHOFIELD, A.M.I.C.E.

Architect C. DAWKES, L.R.I.B.A.

Parks Superintendent W. R. DADGE, F.INST.P.A.,
M.INST.B.C.A.

Housing Manager J. H. WALKER, F.INST.HSG.,
M.R.S.H.

Public Librarian M. J. DAVIES, ESQ.

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
URBAN DISTRICT OF PONTYPOOL
for the year ending 31st December, 1960.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Pontypool Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

My annual public health report on matters relating to public health in your district is herewith submitted for your information.

As usual this report is compiled and submitted in accordance with Regulations 5(3) and 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, and also to comply with recent instructions contained in Circular 1/61 (Wales) dated 31st January, 1961, from the Welsh Board of Health.

General Comment

From a notifiable disease aspect the year under review only produced a few notifications (some 32 in all), excluding tuberculosis. These notifications included some 10 dysentery cases which occurred amongst infants, mothers and staff in the maternity unit of a local hospital. The source of infection here was undoubtedly a maternity case admitted from a neighbouring district suffering from dysentery. Some disruption of routine at the unit was caused by this incident, but the outbreak was contained and normal working was resumed when circumstances permitted. For the eighth consecutive year there was no notification of diphtheria in the district, but this satisfactory state can only be maintained if all parents are diligent in seeing that their children receive the necessary primary and booster inoculations against this disease.

Tuberculosis notifications showed another fall during the year and here the decrease was mainly due to a big drop in the number of female cases notified. In this connection it is noted that priority rehousing was afforded by the Council to two tuberculosis cases during the year.

It will be also noted that the Mass Radiography Service of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board sent mobile units to a number of factories in the district during the year and these visits resulted in a total of 6,390 (4,778 males and 1,612 females) persons attending for chest X-ray. The number needing referral to the Chest Physician for further investigation was very low as can be seen in the detailed account of these surveys given in the body of this report. Though the position with regard to tuberculosis is most encouraging it would be most unwise to say that we had seen the end of the problem when we must admit that there must be many cases of chronic infective pulmonary tuberculosis remaining undetected in the community. The local position must be viewed against the national and global pictures where the tuberculosis experts estimate that there are still 12-25 million cases of infectious pulmonary tuberculosis in the world today and in England and Wales a suggested estimate of 357,000 cases of respiratory tuberculosis of which about 45,000 are infectious.

Against the gratifying improvement in the tuberculosis position locally and nationally we have the ever worsening position with regard to cancer of the lungs and bronchi in recent years. The local figures for 1960 were 21 males. While it is granted that tobacco smoking must in part take the blame for the increase in this disease we must not forget the part played by our polluted atmosphere, especially in built-up urban areas, which is worsening daily with the increase in the number of petrol-engined and diesel-engined vehicles on the roads. The exhausts from heavy diesel-engined vehicles which are not properly maintained are a most serious source of atmospheric pollution and this situation can be observed not infrequently on the narrow streets and steep inclines in this urban area. An effective legislation to curb these vehicles from laying down their jet black smoke screens of incompletely burned fuel (which contains carcinogenic factors) would be complementary to the Clean Air legislation already enacted.

As in the previous year the main emphasis during 1960 was on dealing with the large number of unfit houses in the district, a problem that will be with us for some years to come in this area. Very real progress was made in 1960 when 201 unfit properties were represented to the Council as compared with 183 in 1959. The actual number of unfit properties condemned during 1960 was 245

as compared with 85 in 1959. During the year clearance orders or compulsory purchase orders were confirmed on 13 areas represented to the Council during 1959 and 1960 involving 110 unfit properties. In my previous annual report I referred with concern to the large number of condemned properties in the district which were remaining occupied for prolonged periods due to the yearly allocation of houses for slum clearance falling short of the number condemned each year. The figure for occupied condemned properties has been for some years in the region of 100 at any one time and this includes some properties in a clearance order confirmed in 1939. At the end of 1960 the figure for condemned properties still occupied had soared to the region of 250. At the end of 1959 and 1960 this undesirable position was emphasised in reports to the Public Health Committee and an extract from the latter report will be seen in the body of this annual report. However, it must be stated that the Housing (Design and Development) Committee of the Council has now taken action and the contemplated programme of building should help considerably to relieve the present position in due course if a sufficient number of these houses are allocated to slum clearance. It will of course be necessary to look further ahead than the building programme presently contemplated if the slum problem in this district is to be adequately tackled.

It is noted in the Registrar-General's returns for this district for 1960 that one male death was assigned to acute poliomyelitis. In this respect it is noted that no notification, formal or informal, was received during the year with regard to the occurrence of this disease, nor was there any reference to such a death in the death returns received from the local registrar or on the inward transfer slips received from the General Register Office. In the circumstances it is not possible to identify locally whether this death occurred in a child, adolescent or adult. This has probably been a case in which the diagnosis has been revised on further information being received from the certifying practitioner, but it is felt that in such an instance as this the revised diagnosis with relevant information to enable the case to be identified should be supplied to the local Medical Officer of Health.

Physical Features

The Pontypool Urban District is situated on the eastern outcrop of the South Wales Coalfields and occupies an area of 15,907 acres. The mining areas in this district, which comprise open-cast and deep coal mining, are away from the centres of population.

The altitude varies from 1,789 feet above sea level at Mynydd Varteg Fawr in the Abersychan Parish to 178.7 feet above sea level

at the Sor, Cwmbwrrwch, in the Panteg Parish. The altitude at the Town Hall is 431 feet above sea level. The populated portion of the Urban District is mainly contained in a narrow valley.

General Statistics and Social Conditions

Census population 1921 – 44,831

Census population 1931 – 43,910 (22,723 males and 21,187 females).

Census population 1951 – 42,703 (21,242 males and 21,461 females).

Estimated population mid 1960 = 39,720.

The yearly estimates of the population have shown a steady decline over recent years.

1950 – 42,850

1951 – 42,460

1952 – 42,420

1953 – 42,320

1954 – 42,030

1955 – 41,660

1956 – 41,280

1957 – 40,610

1958 – 40,290

1959 – 40,020

1960 – 39,720

These estimates show a drop of 3,130 in population since 1950.

The main heavy industries in this district include coal mining, the manufacture of steel sheets, railway yards, by-product plant and glass making. The main light industries include the manufacture of nylon yarn and the making of soft toys.

An adequate rail and road transport system serves the town.

Estimated Population (mid 1960) of adjacent Urban Districts and Municipal Boroughs

Abergavenny	M.B.	9,080	Abercarn	.. U.D.	18,800
Abertillery	.. U.D.	26,330	Bedwellty	.. U.D.	28,150
Blaenavon	.. U.D.	9,010	Cwmbran	.. U.D.	21,130
Ebbw Vale	.. U.D.	28,360	Monmouth	.. M.B.	5,720
	Tredegar	.. U.D.			20,260

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

TABLE I Showing the yearly number of live births, estimated mid-year population and birth rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1953.

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Number of live births	587	569	623	593	571	563	628	683
Estimated mid-year population	39,720	40,020	40,290	40,610	41,280	41,660	42,030	42,320
Birth rate per 1,000 population	14.8	14.2	15.5	14.6	13.8	13.5	14.8	16.1

The assignment of live births for the year was 587 (312 males and 275 females), which was an increase of 18 over the previous year. These 587 births were comprised of 567 legitimate births (301 males and 266 females) and 20 illegitimate births (11 males and 9 females).

The natural increase (excess of births over deaths) for the year 1960 was 89 as compared with 98 for 1959, 162 for 1958, 118 for 1957 and 28 for 1956.

The still births assigned to the district for 1960 totalled 14 (7 males and 7 females) as compared with 12 (5 males and 7 females) for the previous year. All the stillbirths for the year were legitimate. The stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths for the year was 23.3 as compared with the County rate of 27.2.

Once again it is noted that there was no death in the district during the year associated with pregnancy or child birth.

The local birth rate of 14.8 per 1,000 population must be adjusted by multiplication by the comparability factor of 1.04 before it can be compared with the national birth rate.

TABLE II Showing the births registered in and allocated to this district for 1960 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable births.

Month	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly Births
January	28	22	50	105
February	16	10	26	
March	10	19	29	
April	11	11	22	82
May	14	10	24	
June	22	14	36	
July	14	14	28	97
August . . .	20	18	38	
September	10	21	31	
October	16	13	29	104
November	18	14	32	
December	24	19	43	
TOTALS	203	185	388	388
Inward transferable births	109	90	199	
GRAND TOTALS for the year 1960	312	275	587	

Comparative Birth Rates — 1960

Pontypool Urban District	15.4 (Adjusted)
Monmouthshire Administrative County ..	17.3
England and Wales	17.1

TABLE III Showing the yearly number of deaths, estimated mid-year population, and the death rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1953.

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Number of deaths	498	471	461	475	543	510	480	466
Estimated mid-year population	39,720	40,020	40,290	40,610	41,280	41,660	42,030	42,320
Death-rate per 1,000 population	12.5	11.8	11.4	11.7	13.2	12.2	11.4	11.0

Deaths assigned to the district for the year totalled 498 (288 males and 210 females) being an increase of 27 over the previous year. This figure gives a crude death rate of 12.5 per 1,000 population for the year.

TABLE V shows these deaths assigned to their various causes by sex.

There were 2 male deaths assigned to pulmonary tuberculosis during the year, but formal notification had previously been received in only one case prior to death. There was one male death assigned to non-pulmonary tuberculosis which had not been formally notified prior to death. There was one female death assigned to pulmonary tuberculosis and this case had been formally notified prior to death.

Cancer in its various forms caused 88 deaths (50 males and 38 females) or 17.7% of the total deaths for the year. Cancer of the lung and bronchus caused 21 deaths (all males), or 4.2% of the total deaths. There was an increase of 3 in the deaths from this cause over the previous year.

The diseases of the heart and blood vessels caused 266 deaths (140 males and 126 females), or 45.4% of the total deaths.

No deaths were assigned to maternal causes during the year.

Motor vehicle accidents caused 5 deaths (4 males and one female) during the year and all other accidents caused 10 deaths (7 males and 3 females).

Suicide was assigned as the cause of 4 deaths (3 males and one female).

Diseases of the respiratory system (excluding tuberculosis) caused 52 deaths (41 males & 11 females), or 10.4% of the total deaths.

The local crude death rate of 12.5 can be compared with the national rate of 11.5 if it is first multiplied by the comparability factor of 1.12, which gives a figure of 14.0.

TABLE IV Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1960 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence together with inward transferable deaths.

Month	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly deaths
January	17	18	35	114
February	16	17	33	
March	23	23	46	
April	17	12	29	85
May	23	11	34	
June	10	12	22	
July	15	17	32	90
August	18	11	29	
September ..	16	13	29	
October	17	11	28	100
November	20	16	36	
December	22	14	36	
TOTALS	214	175	389	389
Inward transferable deaths	74	35	109	
GRAND TOTAL for the year 1960	288	210	498	

Comparative Death Rates — 1960

Pontypool Urban District	14.0 (Adjusted)
Monmouthshire Administrative County ..	13.2 (Adjusted)
England and Wales	11.5

TABLE V Showing the deaths from all causes, infant deaths, births and stillbirths allocated to this district for 1960.

Causes of death					Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	2	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	1	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	..	..	..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	1	—
8.	Measles	..	..	..	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	1	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	10	9
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	..	21	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	—	8
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	—	7
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	18	13
15.	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	..	..	..	1	1
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	—	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	26	30
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	68	38
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	6	4
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	30	45
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	10	9
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	8	3
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	28	6
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	5	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	3	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	—	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	4	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	9	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	5	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	17	19
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	4	1
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	7	3
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	3	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES					288	210
Deaths in infants under 1 year of age :—						
	Legitimate	..	..	..	10	5
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	—	—
	Total	..	..	..	10	5
Total births					312	275
	Legitimate	..	..	..	301	266
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	11	9
Still births—Total					7	7
	Legitimate	..	..	..	7	7
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	—	—

Estimated population - mid 1960 = 39,720
(for calculation of birth and death rates).

Comparability factors : Births Deaths

1.04 1.12

TABLE VI Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1960 in quinquennial age groups and by sex.

Age last birthday	Males	Females	Total
0-4 ..	11	6	17
5-9 ..	2	—	2
10-14 ..	1	—	1
15-19 ..	1	1	2
20-24 ..	—	—	—
25-29 ..	—	—	—
30-34 ..	2	4	6
35-39 ..	1	4	5
40-44 ..	10	3	13
45-49 ..	13	10	23
50-54 ..	16	10	26
55-59 ..	25	12	37
60-64 ..	23	9	32
65-69 ..	46	27	73
70-74 ..	35	37	72
75-79 ..	40	36	76
80-84 ..	33	25	58
85-89 ..	27	15	42
90-94 ..	2	8	10
95 and over ..	—	3	3
All ages ..	288	210	498

The above table shows that 334 persons (183 males and 151 females) had reached the age of 65 years at death, or 67.1 % of the total deaths.

The age of 75 at death was attained by 189 persons (102 males and 87 females), or 37.9 % of the total deaths.

The age of 80 years at death was attained by 113 persons (62 males and 51 females), or 22.6 % of the total deaths.

INFANT MORTALITY

TABLE VII Showing the yearly number of infant deaths, live births, etc., for this district since 1953.

Year	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Number of deaths in infants under 1 year	15	19	16	21	15	20	31	23
Number of live births	587	569	623	593	571	563	628	683
Infant mortality rate	25.6	33.4	25.7	35.4	26.3	35.5	49.3	33.7

The infant deaths (deaths in infants under one year) for the district for 1960 totalled 15 which shows a drop of 4 over the previous year, and compares favourably with the experience of previous years.

These 15 infant deaths were made up by 10 males and 5 females, all being of legitimate birth. Of these infant deaths 10 (7 males and 3 females) occurred in the first week of life and 13 (9 males and 4 females) occurred in the first 4 weeks of life, while 2 (1 male and 1 female) occurred between the age of 4 weeks and one year.

These infant deaths are shown in age groups and by cause in Table VIII.

The infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births for the district for the year was 25.6 as compared with the County rate of 25.5 and a national rate of 21.7.

TABLE VIII Showing the infant deaths (i.e. deaths in infants under one year of age) assigned to this district for 1960, by cause and in age groups.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Prematurity	7	1	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
Congenital deformities ..	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Acute gastro enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Sub-dural haemorrhage ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital heart disease ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Accidental asphyxiation due to vomiting ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
ALL CAUSES	10	3	—	—	13	—	—	2	—	15

There were 15 infant deaths (10 males and 5 females) during the year and of these 11 occurred in hospitals and 4 at home. The greatest single cause of infant deaths during the year was prematurity at birth which accounted for 8 (4 male and 4 female) deaths.

Congenital deformities of all kinds caused 4 deaths (3 males and 1 female).

TABLE IX Showing the infant mortality rates for England and Wales, the County of Monmouthshire and Pontypool Urban District since 1951.

Year	England and Wales	Monmouthshire	Pontypool U.D.
1951	29.7	43.1	43.0
1952	27.6	33.9	27.2
1953	26.8	32.6	33.7
1954	25.4	39.7	49.3
1955	24.9	33.9	35.5
1956	23.7	29.0	26.3
1957	23.1	31.0	35.4
1958	22.6	25.8	25.7
1959	22.2	27.2	33.4
1960	21.7	25.5	25.6

TABLE X Showing the number of inquests during 1960 on persons belonging to this district and the cause of death.

Cause of Death	Male	Female	TOTAL
Coronary thrombosis	6	—	6
Accidental burns sustained in the home	—	1	1
Accidents at place of work	3	—	3
Accidental fire in the home	1	—	1
Accidental fall in the home	1	2	3
Road accident—motor cyclist.. ..	1	—	1
Road accident—pedestrian	2	1	3
Road accident—pedal cyclist	1	—	1
Chronic bronchitis and pneumoconiosis	1	—	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease ..	1	—	1
Accidental drowning	1	—	1
Cancer of bronchus	2	—	2
Malignant growth—postoperative shock	—	1	1
Cancer of pharynx	1	—	1
Cardiac failure and pneumoconiosis ..	1	—	1
Accidental asphyxia—inhilation of vomit	1	—	1
Hypostatic pneumonia	1	—	1
Suicide by drowning	1	—	1
Suicide by carbon monoxide poisoning	—	1	1
Suicide by G.S.W.	1	—	1
Suicide by hanging	1	—	1
ALL CAUSES	27	6	33

Road accidents during the year caused 5 deaths (4 males and 1 female). These accidents involved three pedestrians—males aged 13 and 8 years and a female aged 36 years.

The suicidal deaths involved 3 males aged 67, 65 and 66 years and one female aged 48 years.

Accidental falls in the home caused 3 deaths—one male aged 93 years and 2 females aged 76 and 89 years.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The number of notifications of notifiable diseases received from general practitioners, hospital medical officers and chest physicians during the year are shown in age and sex groups in tables XII and XVI.

DIPHTHERIA

This is the eighth successive year in which no notification of diphtheria has been received for this district, but only a more diligent effort on the part of parents to have their children fully immunised will maintain this state and prevent the outbreaks which have been recently appearing in other parts of the country. It is estimated that in this district some 65%—70% of children under 15 years have had an immunising dose at some time in their lives, but not so many have received a booster dose. However, the news of outbreaks of diphtheria in other parts of the country recently has encouraged a number of parents to seek a booster dose for their children. The return to combined immunisation, such as the use of a triple antigen, will undoubtedly raise the acceptance rate by reducing the number of injections to be given.

TABLE XI Showing the number of immunisations against diphtheria done in the Council's district during 1960.

	Age at date of final injection (as regards A) or of reinforcing injection (as regards B)			
	Under 1 yr.	1-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total
A. No. of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the Council's District during the year 1960 ..	59	286	94	439
B. No. of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection subsequent to primary immunisation in the year ended 31.12.'60 ..	—	62	122	184

TABLE XII Showing the notifiable diseases notified in this district during 1960, analysed in age and sex groups and giving the admissions to hospital. (Corrected for diagnosis). (Tuberculosis excluded)

DISEASE	Under 1 year		1-2 years		2-3 years		3-4 years		4-5 years		5-10 years		10-15 years		15-25 years		25-35 years		35-45 years		45-65 years		65 yrs and upwards		ALL AGES			Cases Admitted to Hospital
	M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F.		M. F. T.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	T.	
Diphtheria
Measles
Scarlet fever
Whooping cough
Puerperal Pyrexia
Ac. primary and Influenzal pneumonia
Erysipelas
Food Poisoning
Meningococcal Infection
Typhoid
Paratyphoid
Dysentery
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Acute Encephalitis
Poliomyelitis :
Paralytic
Non-paralytic
Smallpox
Anthrax
TOTALS	2	2	-	1	1	2	2	-	3	2	-	2	1	2	-	1	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	22	32	11

MEASLES

There were 2 (1 male and 1 female) notifications only of measles received during the year as against 92 (51 males and 41 females) received during 1959.

SCARLET FEVER

There were 5 (3 male and 2 female) notifications of scarlet fever received during the year as compared with 9 (1 male and 8 female) during 1959.

WHOOPING COUGH

There were 11 (5 males and 6 females) notifications of whooping cough received during the year as compared with 3 (all males) during 1959.

FOOD POISONING

There was 1 case of food poisoning notified during the year in a female child as against none in 1959.

ERYSIPELAS

There were 2 (both females) notifications of erysipelas received during the year as against 4 (2 male and 2 female) in 1959.

DYSENTERY

There were 10 (1 male and 9 female) notifications of sonné dysentery received from the maternity unit of a local hospital during the year as compared with none in 1959. This outbreak involved 1 infant and 9 mothers and staff.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

There was one notification in respect of a female child received during the year as compared with none in 1959.

OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

No notifications were received in respect of diphtheria, puerperal pyrexia, acute primary and influenzal pneumonia, meningococcal infection, typhoid, paratyphoid, acute encephalitis, poliomyelitis, anthrax or smallpox.

TABLE XIII Showing the number of vaccinations against smallpox carried out in the district during 1960.

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15 + yrs.	Total
No. vaccinated ..	249	35	31	17	24	356
No. re-vaccinated ..	—	—	1	3	38	42
Total ..	249	35	32	20	62	398

Taking into account the number of live births during 1959 and 1960 it is estimated that there was an acceptance rate of between 45% and 50% for vaccination against smallpox in children under one year of age and between 50% and 55% for children under two years of age.

TABLE XIV Showing the number of immunisations against whooping cough carried out in the district during the year ended 31.12.60.

	Age at date of final injection		
	0-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total
Number of children who have completed a primary course (normally three injections) of whooping cough vaccine (singly or in combination) in the Authority's district during the year ended 31.12.60	359	3	362

Taking into account the number of acceptances in children in the 0-4 years age groups and the yearly live births over the last three years it is estimated that between 60% and 65% of the children are being immunised against whooping cough.

TABLE XV Showing the number of cases of notifiable diseases notified yearly since 1946 (corrected for diagnosis). Tuberculosis excluded.

DISEASE	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Diphtheria ..	-	92	620	187	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	-	3	4
Measles ..	2	-	-	-	338	509	4	735	110	1,351	18	115	275	214	3
Scarlet Fever ..	5	9	36	39	32	17	7	10	61	56	59	88	38	32	29
Whooping Cough ..	11	3	63	31	49	19	225	50	184	55	180	36	39	24	59
Puerperal pyrexia ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	3	3	2	-	3
Ac. primary and influenzal pneumonia..	-	-	4	10	1	3	-	6	5	15	11	3	3	6	3
Erysipelas ..	2	4	-	-	1	1	-	4	2	3	3	5	3	1	3
Food poisoning..	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	3	3	1	8	5	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections ..	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	2
Typhoid ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Paratyphoid ..	-	-	-	2	1	-	2	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ..	10	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Neonatorum ..	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	-
Acute Encephalitis ..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Paralytic ..	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	8	-	2	1	-	3	2
(b) Non-paralytic ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

As previously the chest clinic facilities continue to be provided at the Park Buildings in the town centre which is convenient for patients.

The clinic is open on two whole days each week on Tuesday and Thursday.

During the year there were 10 (8 male and 2 female) notifications of respiratory tuberculosis and 2 (1 male and 1 female) notifications of non-respiratory tuberculosis. The figures for respiratory tuberculosis showed a marked drop as compared with the previous year and were the lowest so far attained in this district. The main reason for the new low figures was the big drop in the number of notifications in respect of respiratory tuberculosis in females.

As usual, each notification was followed by a detailed environmental enquiry at the home of the patient by the Medical Officer of Health personally, when all contacts were strongly advised of the necessity to attend the chest clinic as soon as possible for chest X-ray and B.C.G. vaccination where appropriate.

The close liaison forged with the Chest Physician over the years has been maintained and the free exchange of information between this Officer and the Medical Officer of Health on matters relating to tuberculosis in the locality has, no doubt, been of benefit to all tuberculosis patients in the district.

Units of the Mass Radiography Service of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board were active in a number of large factories in the district during the year which resulted in some 6,390 (4,778 male and 1,612 female) persons having a chest X-ray. It is notable that of this fairly large number of persons only 19 (16 males and 3 females) required to be referred to the Chest Physician for further investigation.

At the close of the year the local tuberculosis register showed a total of 271 persons comprising 242 (142 males and 100 females) pulmonary cases and 29 (18 males and 11 females) non-pulmonary cases.

TABLE XVI Showing the new cases of tuberculosis notified and the deaths due to tuberculosis during 1960, analysed in age and sex groups and by type of disease.
(Corrected for diagnosis.)

Age groups in yrs.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—44	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
55—64	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 +	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
TOTALS ..	8	2	1	1	2	1	1	—

During the year there was a death recorded in a female aged 70 years from pulmonary tuberculosis who had been notified during the year. There was also a death recorded during the year from pulmonary tuberculosis in a male aged 59 years who was formally notified in 1958. One death occurred in a male aged 54 years from pulmonary tuberculosis who had not been formally notified before death. One death was recorded in a male aged 73 years from spinal tuberculosis who was not formally notified before death.

The above new cases of tuberculosis were classified by the Chest Physician as follows:—

Males pulmonary:—RA₁, RA₂ (no classification received in the six other cases).

Males non-pulmonary:—No classification received.

Females pulmonary:—No classification received.

Females non-pulmonary:—A₃.

TABLE XVII Showing the number of cases of tuberculosis remaining on the register at 31.12.60.

Males		Females		TOTAL
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
142	18	100	11	271

TABLE XVIII Showing the monthly notifications of tuberculosis for the year 1960.

Month of year	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		TOTAL
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
January	—	—	—	1	1
February	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	1	1	—	2
April	4	—	—	—	4
May	1	—	—	—	1
June	—	—	—	—	—
July	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	—	—	—
September	1	1	—	—	2
October	1	—	—	—	1
November	1	—	—	—	1
December	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	8	2	1	1	12

TABLE XIX Showing the occupations at the time of notification of the new cases of tuberculosis notified during 1960.

Occupation	Males		Females		TOTAL
	Pulmon-ary	Non-Pulmon-ary	Pulmon-ary	Non-Pulmon-ary	
Lorry Driver ..	1	—	—	—	1
Carpenter	1	—	—	—	1
Housewife	—	—	2	1	3
Forge Labourer ..	1	—	—	—	1
Machine Operator	2	—	—	—	1
Colliery Labourer	1	—	—	—	2
Pre-school	1	—	—	—	1
School	1	—	—	—	1
Factory Inspector	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL ..	8	1	2	1	12

The death rates for tuberculosis for 1960 were:—

(Rates for 1959 in parentheses)

- (a) Tuberculosis (all forms) .. 0.10 per 1,000 pop. (0.05)
 (b) Pulmonary tuberculosis .. 0.07 per 1,000 pop. (0.05)
 (c) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis .. 0.03 per 1,000 pop. (NIL)

TABLE XX Showing the new notifications of all forms of tuberculosis as distributed to the various wards in this Urban District for 1960.

Wards	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Garndiffaith ..	2	—	—	—	2
Abersychan ..	1	—	—	—	1
Pontnewynydd ..	3	1	—	—	4
Wainfelin ..	—	—	—	—	—
Pontypool ..	—	1	—	1	2
Pontymoel ..	1	—	—	—	1
Griffithstown ..	—	—	—	—	—
New Inn ..	1	—	—	—	1
Sebastopol ..	—	—	1	—	1
ALL WARDS ..	8	2	1	1	12

TABLE XXI Showing the admissions to and discharges from institutions for the treatment of tuberculosis during 1960.

Institutions	Admissions		Discharges	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Sully Hospital	3	3	2	2
Cefn Mably ..	5	4	7	4
Pontypool & District Hospital	1	1	1	1
Glan Ely Hospital	1	—	1	—
South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth	—	—	1	—
TOTAL	10	8	12	7

TABLE XXII Showing the yearly notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) for males and females, and the yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis since 1944. (Corrected for diagnosis)

Year	Yearly notifications of tuberculosis				Total yearly notifications of pulmonary & non-pulmonary tuberculosis	Yearly deaths from tuberculosis				Total of yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1944	27	29	3	8	67	14	9	2	1	26
1945	46	22	2	6	76	10	18	3	2	33
1946	19	13	11	3	46	12	8	2	2	24
1947	16	23	5	9	53	9	10	1	1	21
1948	21	22	4	10	57	16	5	3	1	25
1949	14	17	4	3	38	16	6	1	1	24
1950	19	17	1	4	41	6	2	1	1	10
1951	24	15	1	7	47	9	2	—	1	12
1952	25	13	5	2	45	5	4	3	1	13
1953	12	6	2	3	23	2	3	1	—	6
1954	13	10	—	3	26	4	3	—	—	5
1955	8	8	2	1	19	1	2	—	—	3
1956	8	7	1	—	16	1	4	2	—	7
1957	8	5	—	1	14	—	2	—	—	2
1958	9	9	2	2	22	—	—	—	—	—
1959	10	9	1	1	21	—	—	—	—	—
1960	8	2	1	1	12	2	1	1	—	2
						2				4

TABLE XXIII Showing the notification rates and death rates for tuberculosis per 1,000 of the estimated mid-year population for this district since 1938.

Year	Notification rates per 1,000 population		Death rates per 1,000 population	
	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary
1938	1.09	.42	.52	.07
1939	1.15	.49	.42	.07
1940	.84	.48	.58	.12
1941	1.13	.41	.74	.05
1942	.67	.36	.41	.19
1943	.99	.22	.49	.10
1944	1.34	.26	.55	.07
1945	1.88	.19	.67	.12
1946	.76	.33	.48	.10
1947	.93	.33	.45	.05
1948	1.01	.33	.50	.09
1949	.73	.16	.56	.05
1950	.84	.12	.19	.04
1951	.92	.18	.26	.02
1952	.90	.17	.21	.09
1953	.42	.12	.12	.02
1954	.55	.07	.12	NIL
1955	.38	.07	.06	NIL
1956	.36	.02	.12	.04
1957	.32	.03	.05	NIL
1958	.45	.10	NIL	NIL
1959	.47	.05	.05	NIL
1960	.26	.05	.08	.03

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEYS IN PONTYPOOL URBAN DISTRICT — 1960

A number of factory establishments in the district were visited during the year by units of the Mass Radiography Service and details of the surveys are as follows:—

(a) Messrs. British Nylon Spinners Ltd. (March 1960)

	Males	Females	Misc. Contrs.	Total
Total number examined	3,243	948	7	4,198
Total found to be abnormal cases	160	8	—	168
(i) Referred to Chest Physician as cases requiring further investigation	7	2	—	9
(ii) Other abnormalities of the Chest	153	6	—	159
TOTAL ..				4,198

(b) Messrs. Richard Thomas & Baldwins Ltd. (April 1960)

	Males	Females	Total
Total number examined	1,002	52	1,054
Total found to be abnormal cases ..	14	—	14
(i) Referred to Chest Physician as cases requiring further investiga- tion	5	—	5
(ii) Other abnormalities of the Chest	9	—	9
TOTAL ..			1,054

(c) Messrs. Pilkington Bros. (S. Wales) Ltd. (February 1960)

	Males	Females	Total
Total number examined	400	57	457
Total found to be abnormal cases ..	13	1	14
(i) Referred to Chest Physician as cases requiring further investiga- tion	2	1	3
(ii) Other abnormalities of the Chest	11	—	11
TOTAL ..			457

(d) Messrs. H. G. Stone & Co. Ltd. (February 1960)

	Males	Females	Misc. Contrs.	Total
Total number examined	52	271	16	339
Total found to be abnormal cases	3	5	2	10
(i) Referred to Chest Physician as cases requiring further investigation	1	—	—	1
(ii) Other abnormalities of the Chest	2	5	2	9
TOTAL ..				339

(e) Messrs. H. G. Stone & Co. Ltd. (December 1960)

	Males	Females	Misc. Contrs.	Total
Total number examined	44	284	14	342
Total found to be abnormal cases	2	1	—	3
(i) Referred to Chest Physician as cases requiring further investigation	1	—	—	1
(ii) Other abnormalities of the Chest	1	1	—	2
		TOTAL	..	342

GRAND TOTAL EXAMINED = 6,390 (4,778 males and 1,612 females).

Deaths from respiratory tuberculosis and cancer of the lung and bronchus, England and Wales — 1960

The provisional death rate per million population for England and Wales for 1960 from respiratory tuberculosis was 68 which indicates a further fall over the previous year.

The death rate per million population for England and Wales for 1960 from cancer of the lung and bronchus was 481 which shows a further increase on the death rate from this cause over the previous year.

HOUSING

Return for the year ending 31/12/60

(a)	Number of dwelling houses demolished (old clearance areas)	2
(b)	Number of dwelling houses demolished (not in clearance areas) as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957 ..	22
(c)	Unfit houses closed under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) of the Housing Act, 1957	31
(d)	Housing repairs:—	
	(i) Houses in which defects were remedied after informal notice	19
	(ii) Houses in which defects were remedied after formal notice under the Public Health Acts ..	49
	(iii) Houses in which defects were remedied after formal notice under the Housing Act, 1957 ..	NIL

GENERAL HOUSING INFORMATION

1.	Number of post-war council houses completed by 31/12/60	2,273
2.	Number of council houses completed during 1960 ..	73
3.	Number of houses completed by private enterprise during 1960	19
4.	Number of houses under construction by private enterprise at 31/12/60	22
5.	Number of council houses under construction at 31/12/60	188
6.	Number of houses owned by the Council at 31/12/60 ..	3,773
7.	Number of individual unfit houses represented to the Council during 1960	115
8.	Number of closing or demolition orders (as appropriate) made on these 115 houses during 1960	93
9.	Number of clearance areas represented to Council during 1960	9
10.	Number of houses included in these 9 clearance areas ..	62

11. Council-controlled houses certified unfit (Arcon bungalows) by M.O.H. during 1960	22
12. Number of applications received for certificates of disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, during 1960 ..	11
13. Number of Certificates of disrepair issued during 1960..	9
14. Number of condemned properties in the district still occupied at 31/12/60 (approx.)	250

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS MADE DURING 1960

(a) Number of grants made during 1960	70
(b) Amount of improvement grants for 1960 .. (approx.)	£11,500
(c) Number of grants made 1949–1960 inclusive ..	326
(d) Amount of improvement grants for 1949–1960 inclusive (approx.)	£53,500

Special report made to the Council on Slum Clearance progress for 1960

The following is a summary of a report compiled at the end of 1960 and presented to the Council's Public Health Committee in relation to Slum Clearance progress during the year, the proposed programme for 1961 and the question of rehousing from condemned properties generally in the district.

Slum Clearance progress in 1960 — Proposed programme for 1961

For the information and guidance of the Public Health Committee (which Committee comprises all members of the Council) the following details are given on unfit properties in the district which were represented to the Council in accordance with Section 16(1) and Section 157(1) of the Housing Act, 1957, during the year ending 31st December, 1960.

A. Number of unfit properties officially represented, etc., to the Council during 1960

(a) Number of individual unfit houses represented – Sec. 16(1)	115
(b) Number of unfit houses in the 9 Clearance Areas represented – Sec. 157(1)	62
(c) Number of Council-controlled houses certified unfit —Arcon Bungalows	22
(d) Number of houses on which the owner requested the Council to place D.O's or C.O's as appropriate..	2
	<hr/> 201

Total number of unfit houses represented to the Council on official representations, etc., during 1960 = 201.

B. Action taken on the above 201 properties by the end of 1960

(a) Closing or demolition orders made	95
(b) One Clearance Area confirmed	8
(c) Certificate of unfitness of the Arcon Bungalows accepted by the Ministry	22
(d) Undertakings not to relet accepted by the Council ..	1
(e) Demolition order action deferred for 3 months by the Council	1
(f) Number of owners' proposals accepted by the Council	3
	<hr/>
	130

Number of properties on which action had been completed by the close of the year in the case of the 201 unfit properties officially represented, etc., during 1960 = 130.

23 of the 201 unfit houses under 'A' were vacant when represented to the Council.

Eleven of the 130 unfit houses on which action had been taken under 'B' during 1960 were vacated and the occupants rehoused during the same year.

C. Total number of unfit houses dealt with during 1960 including the 130 already mentioned at (B), together with orders made on individual unfit properties and clearance orders which were confirmed during the year but which were officially represented during 1958 and 1959.

(a) Demolition or Closing orders made during the year on properties represented during 1960	95
(b) Demolition or Closing orders made at owners' request during 1960	2
(c) Demolition or Closing orders made during 1960 on properties represented during 1958 and 1959 ..	16
(d) Council-controlled properties (Arcon Bungalows) certified unfit during 1960 and approved by the Ministry during the same year	22
(e) Number of properties in the 13 clearance areas represented during 1959 and 1960 and confirmed by the Minister during 1960	110
	<hr/>
	245

Grand total of unfit houses condemned during 1960 = 245.

The net result of these latest condemnations is that there are at the close of 1960 approximately 250 condemned properties remaining occupied in the district.

D. The following tabulation shows the unfit properties represented and condemned, together with the number of rehousing from condemned houses and the number of council houses built yearly from 1956 to 1960.

Year	No. of unfit houses represented yearly	No. of unfit houses in Col. (2) which were vacant when represented	No. of unfit houses condemned yearly	No. of rehousing from condemned houses yearly	No. of Council houses built each year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1956	28	3	33	38	186
1957	39	4	29	21	95
1958	51	6	35	42	64
1959	182	11	85	62	82
1960	201	23	245	64	73
1956 to 1960	501	47	427	227	500

It must be borne in mind that there are, in addition, some 69 properties (15 individual unfits and 54 in eight clearance areas) represented during 1960 which were not condemned at the close of the year.

I wish to draw your attention to the paragraph on slum clearance on page 5 of my annual report for 1959 which was distributed to all members in July, 1960, in which I indicated that it was intended to represent in the region of 200 unfit houses a year to the Council for consideration and to advise you that this target has in fact been attained for 1960 during which 201 unfit properties came before you for consideration.

Proposed programme of slum clearance for 1961

Cordy's Row and Victoria Village	..	30 houses (approx.)
West Place, etc., Pontypool	.. ..	22 houses ..
Waterloo, Commercial Road, Blue Boar and Woodland, Talywain	.. ..	40 houses ..
George Street, Mill Road, Dyke Row, Pontnewynydd	.. .. .	35 houses ..
Cwmynyscoy	.. ..	23 houses ..
Davies Court, Garndiffaith	.. ..	24 houses ..

174 approx.

Add any urgent individual unfit houses.

This will be a major job for the Public Health Department for 1961 but every effort will be made to keep to this schedule providing other commitments or staff alterations do not make it impossible.

It is again emphasised that it is my intention to pursue as energetically as possible during the next 4-5 years the problem of clearing this district of unfit properties, but this effort will be of little avail if the provision of replacement houses is not speeded up and maintained in an equally energetic manner by firstly providing sufficient architectural staff to cope with such work.

It cannot be too strongly recommended that the occupants of condemned properties should be rehoused within a reasonable time after condemnation action has been finalised, as it is obviously wrong that these families should be left to languish in such conditions for a longer period than is absolutely necessary.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

The following tables show the number and type of factories in the district and the inspections carried out during 1960 in connection with the above Acts.

TABLE XXIV Showing the number of factories and the inspections thereof for 1960.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		Occu- piers prose- cuted
		Inspec- tions	Written notices	
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority	2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	99	52	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	8	—	—
TOTAL	109	62	4	—

TABLE XXV Showing the defects found in factories and the action taken to remedy them during the year.

Particulars	Number of defects				Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Insp.	Referred by H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	4	8	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work).	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	4	8	—	—	—

TABLE XXVI Showing details of out-workers for 1960 (Sects. 110 and 111).

Nature of Work (1)	SECTION 110			SECTION 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110(1) (c) (2)	No. of Cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing Apparel Making etc. Clean- ing and washing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen Lace, lace curtains and nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plate	—	—	—	—	—	—
File making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fur pulling	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and Steel cables and chains ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cart Gear	—	—	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE XXVI Showing details of out-workers for 1960 (Sects. 110 and 111) continued.

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Artificial flowers ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nets other than wire nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks	—	—	—	—	—	—
Racquet & tennis balls	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper Bags	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pea picking	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding etc., of buttons etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys	8	—	—	—	—	—
Basket making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolates and Sweetmeats	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Textile weaving ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	8	—	—	—	—	—

MISCELLANEOUS

National Assistance Act, 1948

It was not necessary to take any action under Section 47 of the above Act during the year for the compulsory removal of any person for the purposes of securing necessary care and attention.

Superannuation Act, 1937-1953

During the year 27 medical examinations were carried out by the Medical Officer of Health on Council employees in connection with the above Act.

Staff and Accommodation

The Council's Public Health Department continued to be housed on the first floor of the Library Buildings in the town centre. It is anticipated that the department will be required to move from this building in the not too distant future.

The pupil public health inspector in the department, Mr. D. Thomas, was successful during the year in his first attempt at the examination for the public health inspector's certificate and has since secured an appointment as a district inspector in the Midlands.

I wish to thank all members of the Public Health Department Staff for their efforts during the year and also the Council's other departments and Departmental Heads for their helpfulness.

PUBLIC ANALYST'S REPORT

I am indebted to Dr. G. V. James, M.B.E., M.SC., F.R.I.C., Public Analyst to the Council, for the following report on the work carried out by him on behalf of this Authority during the year ended 31/12/60.

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year 1960. In the interests of uniformity the work performed has been classified as in former years.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

During the year a total of 158 samples were examined of which 125 were informal trial samples, the balance of 33 being formal samples.

Adulteration and Irregularities

One formal sample of milk showed a deficiency of 11.66% fat and thus failed to conform to the required standard. "Appeal to cow" samples taken as a result of this did conform to the requirements, hence the case was proved.

One sample of Irish Stew contained some rancid fat. This was not sufficient to warrant condemnation but follow-up sampling of this product was recommended.

One sample of canned beef steak and vegetables showed the ingredients on the label in wrong order and, after correspondence, the manufacturers agreed to amend the wording on the label. One sample of pickled onions was irregular as the vinegar used contained salt which was not declared.

As only one adulterated sample was received, the adulteration rate was 0.63%. This is low and confirms the continued vigilance of your Inspectors.

Milk

Fourteen samples were taken in course of Sale to the Public, and excluding the adulterated sample mentioned above, the average composition was:—

FAT 3.61%, SOLIDS NOT FAT 8.72%, TOTAL SOLIDS 12.33%.

This is satisfactory and slightly better than the 1959 average.

Dairy Products including Ice Cream and Ice Lollies

23 samples of butter, cream, lard, ice cream and related products were all satisfactory.

Meat and Fish Products and Pastes

37 samples of meat and fish products and pastes, including meat pies, were received and all were genuine.

Wines, Spirits and Beverage Preparations

8 samples of tea, coffee and chicory extracts, whisky, etc., were received and found to be satisfactory.

Cereals and Farinaceous Products

23 samples of flour, cake mixture, tapioca, cakes, etc., were submitted and proved genuine.

Jams, Dried Fruits and Mincemeat

6 samples of this class of product were examined and conformed with various standards of purity and freedom from insect infestation.

Spices, Sauces and Vinegar

7 samples of spices, condiments, etc., were received during the year and all were of good quality.

Sweets

22 samples of sweets were examined and found to be fit for human consumption. I must express concern at the sale of chocolates containing spirituous liquids in sweet shops where they can be purchased and consumed irresponsibly by young children.

Drugs

Two samples of drugs were submitted and conformed with the declarations on the label.

Miscellaneous

16 samples of unclassified foodstuffs including canned vegetables, lentils, cheese spreads, canned fruits etc., were received and conformed with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Water Examination

Chemical and bacteriological examinations continue to be regularly made on the sources of water supplied to the Urban District and an excellent standard of purity is maintained. As noted in previous reports about 250 samples were examined from all sources and were submitted by both the Urban District and the Water Undertaking.

Sewage Disposal

Regular examination of samples of sewage and effluents are received from the Ponthir treatment plant of the Eastern Valley (Mon.) Joint Sewerage Board, and the results are good. Industrial effluents do put a strain on the actual working of the plant and this is being taken care of by proposed extensions to the works.

Atmospheric Pollution

Regular measurements continue to be made, the results being summarized in Tables I & II. The figures again show that domestic pollution is the worst offender and this can be tackled by introduction of Smoke Control areas and abolition of old fashioned grates.

TABLE I

Mgms. Sulphur Trioxide collected per day

		Monmouth Crescent	Coedycanddo Road, New Inn	Pontypool Park
January	..	1.20	1.36	0.73
February	..	1.42	1.61	0.85
March	..	1.11	0.95	0.58
April	..	0.92	1.90	0.47
May	..	0.66	0.82	0.37
June	..	0.56	1.14	0.30
July	..	0.53	1.66	0.34
August	..	0.39	0.85	0.20
September	..	0.48	0.89	0.21
October	..	0.51	0.69	0.34
November	..	0.77	1.65	0.35
December	..	1.13	1.93	0.68

TABLE II

Total Deposit in tons per square mile per month

		Monmouth Crescent	Panteg House	Pontypool Park	Brit. Legion Club Pontnewynydd
January	..	12.62	15.74	14.40	31.90
February	..	14.10	13.77	14.00	22.86
March	..	6.88	9.51	8.53	19.71
April	..	8.8 ^a	14.64	8.46	16.85
May	..	12.82	13.54	13.12	23.19
June	..	12.28	8.61	7.28	12.45
July	..	11.68	15.28	13.50	22.75
August	..	21.21	22.48	9.30	21.49
September	..	13.39	7.77	10.98	Sample Lost
October	..	8.22	11.67	11.07	20.17
November	..	18.39	26.88	17.67	35.40
December	..	15.00	29.45	9.14	11.33

Radioactivity

Samples have been monitored from time to time and show no cause for alarm but the graphs mentioned in last year's report were not completed on account of negotiations and discussions leading to the production of an overall scheme for the County which came into operation in January, 1961, and in which the Urban District is taking part. Through this scheme it is proposed that annual reports will be made available to participating authorities.

In conclusion, I should like to take the opportunity of thanking the Medical Officer of Health, the Chief Public Health Officer and their staffs for much valuable co-operation throughout the year.

WATER SUPPLIES — 1960

I am indebted to H. D. Linton, Esq., A. M. INST. W.E., A.M. INST. C.E., Water Engineer to the Pontypool and District Water Company, who are the Statutory Water Undertakers for this Urban District, for the following report for 1960.

Total quantity of water distributed during 1960 was 771,000,000 gallons equal to an average daily quantity of 2,100,000 gallons. A slight increase over 1959.

The year was notable for heavy rainfall, the total amount recorded at the Company's Cwmavon Station was 84.28 inches being the highest ever recorded in the Company's history. The previous highest was 81.59 inches in 1882.

All the Company's filtration and treatment stations were operative during the year and a high quality of water was maintained. The average chlorine dose was 1.0 p.p.m.

221 bacteriological samples were analysed by the Public Analyst, Dr. G. V. James, M.B.E., M.SC., F.R.I.C., and 440 bacteriological samples and 35 chemical samples were analysed by the Company's own staff chemist. In addition 1,500 routine chlorine residual and pH. tests were made by the Company's Chemist throughout the district. In all 2,200 samples were dealt with during the year. Regular daily chlorine residual tests were also taken by the operatives at all the Treatment Stations.

Softening of the Glyn Pits Water was carried out for about four months only during which approximately 53,000,000 gallons were dealt with satisfactorily from this hard water source.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

I am indebted to J. M. Williams, Esq., M.A.P.H.I., Senior Public Health Inspector to the Pontypool Urban District Council for the following report for 1960:—

Water Supplies

During the year some 93 samples of water were taken by the Local Authority for bacteriological analysis. 92 were satisfactory.

Year	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
1956 ..	89	1	90
1957 ..	85	1	86
1958 ..	89	1	90
1959 ..	96	1	97
1960 ..	92	1	93

It can be said with confidence that the mains water supply to your area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Nevertheless, a number of dwellings are still sharing outside standpipes. The exact number is not known. Some of these houses are in confirmed Clearance Areas and many in proposed Clearance Areas.

Sewage Disposal

The general picture of the sewerage system for the area remains largely unaltered. The valley is served by the trunk sewer which runs roughly along the line of the Avon Llwyd and which collects the sewage at various points from the numerous subsidiary sewers serving each side of the Eastern Valley.

Some work was done during 1960 by way of connecting sewers to the subsidiaries but unfortunately yet another year has passed without any major improvements having being affected in this respect. During the year some 71 houses were condemned where the drainage was discharging either into the river or its tributaries. At the end of the period under review 24 of these had been vacated. Important as these measures are, however, I think the time is not only ripe but long overdue when all out efforts must be made to rid the area of these appalling nuisances by connecting up immediately all sewers discharging into the area's water courses. It surely is a sad situation when it is necessary to wait for heavy rain to flood the river and streams to wash away the filth which has accumulated on their banks during a dry spell.

Swimming Baths

Both the existing public baths were again in use during 1960, and over all, the conditions were reasonably good, although some difficulties were experienced and overcome by the Engineer and Surveyor.

The water at the Pontnewynydd bath is obtained from an untreated spring, supported when necessary by mains supply. At Griffithstown bath all the water is from the mains.

Both baths have rapid filters and chlorinating plants installed.

The following are the numbers of persons attending the baths during the year.

Bath	No. of Adults	No. of Children		Total
		Privately	Thro' Schools	
Pontnewynydd	3,389	17,926	3,751	25,066
Griffithstown	2,536	16,981	5,834	25,351
	5,925	34,907	9,585	50,417

The total numbers are down on the previous years and may be accounted for by the bad summer.

The water in the baths was regularly checked by the Public Health Inspectors for bacteriological standard and Chlorine content and of the 20 samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, 14 were satisfactory.

During the early part of the year the Council gave consideration to improving the Pontnewynydd bath, but could not agree to the conversion. It was agreed in principle to the provision of a modern Swimming Bath and the Engineer and Surveyor was asked to submit recommendations for the siting thereof.

Atmospheric Pollution

The following table shows the average monthly reading for the year ending 31st December, 1960:

Station No.	Site	a	b	c	d
1.	Warehouse Roof, Messrs. Pilkington Bros. (S.W.) Ltd., Panteg ..	15.26	0.55	—	—
2.	The Railway Embankm't, Messrs. Pilkington Bros. (S.W.) Ltd., Panteg ..	21.12	1.38	—	—
3.	Prefabricated Bungalow, 10, Monmouth Crescent, New Inn	12.95	0.81	—	—
4.	Private Club, "Panteg House," Griffithstown	15.75	—	—	—
5.	Pontypool Park, Pontypool	11.45	0.45	—	—
6.	The British Legion Club, Pontnewynydd	21.59	—	—	—
7.	The Public Health Dept., Library Buildings, Pontypool	—	—	7.4	1.9
8.	Private Dwelling House, Coed-y-Canddo Road, Panteg	—	1.29	—	—
9.	The Surge Tower, Messrs. Pilkington Bros. (S.W.) Ltd., Panteg ..	—	1.64	—	—
OVERALL AVERAGES		16.35	1.00	7.4	1.9

- (a) = Average Monthly Deposited Matter in Tons/Sq.ml.
 (b) = Average Day SO₃/Collected on 100 Sq./cms of PbO₂.
 (c) = VOLUMETRIC APPARATUS:
 Smoke Average Daily Reading in Mg/100M₃.
 (d) = VOLUMETRIC APPARATUS:
 SO₂ Average Daily Reading in P.P. 100M.

Rodent Control

During 1960 the Public Health Inspectors and Rodent Operatives made a total of 2,031 visits and the operation cleared some 677 infestations of rats and mice.

The practice continues of making no charge for private and Council-owned dwelling houses, while business premises are charged on a basis of time and materials used.

Disinfestation of Houses

The following number of premises were treated for the destruction of Vermin or Insect Pests:—

12	Dwelling Houses	..	..	..	Bugs
2	"	"	..	..	Fleas
17	"	"	..	..	Flies in roof spaces
2	"	"	..	..	Wasp nests
7	"	"	..	..	Ants
6	"	"	..	..	Other insects
6	"	"	..	..	Cockroaches
4	"	"	..	..	Spider Beetles

In addition to the above disinfestations, 9 Wasp nests and one Bees nest were destroyed on open ground. A heavy infestation of wild bees was also disposed of in the flues of the Municipal Offices.

Food Premises, Food Inspection, etc.

During 1960 the Report on Slaughterhouses required by Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act of 1958, was submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. It was considered that the two Private Slaughterhouses in the district, whilst not complying with the requirements of the construction regulation, would be able to comply by the 1st January, 1963. Work on one of the Slaughterhouses had commenced by the end of 1960. No objections were made to the Council's recommendations.

The work of routine visits and inspections of food premises continued during the year and some improvements effected to certain premises. It is found in practice that the desired effect can be quite readily obtained by informal approach and discussion with the food handlers.

The following are the numbers of the various types of food shops throughout the area:

Grocers	..	58
Cafes	..	14
Butchers	..	31
General	..	131
Fish and Chips	..	9
Greengrocers	..	30

Sampling continued with the same care as always and the following is a summary of this work:—

Milk

(a) For Bacteriological Analysis:—

Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	..	96
Tuberculin Tested (Past.) Milk	..	..	..	..	46
Sterilised Milk	..	..	..	..	46
					<hr/>
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	188
					<hr/>

All samples were found to be satisfactory.

(b) For Chemical Analysis:—

14 Samples were taken for fat content, etc., and all but one complied with the Statutory Standards. One sample showed a deficiency of 11.60% fat, but “appeal to cow” samples varied considerably and these results appeared to be due to poor management at farm level, resulting in inadequate mixing of milk. A firm letter was sent to the producer retailer informing him that the Council expected improvements in his methods. Check samples taken later proved satisfactory.

The average composition of all milk samples was as follows:—
 Fat — 3.6% : Solids not Fat — 8.7% : Total Solids — 12.3%.

Ice Cream

(a) For Bacteriological Analysis:—

59 Samples were taken during the year and the results are very satisfactory.

Year	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Total
1956	.. 15	4	1	1	21
1957	.. 29	11	6	6	57
1958	.. 49	3	1	—	53
1959	.. 43	5	1	1	51
1960	.. 58	—	1	—	59

This is the best result since sampling was commenced.

(b) For Chemical Analysis:—

13 Samples of Ice Cream were taken for fat content and all were found to satisfy the demands of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order 1953, which requires a minimum fat content of 5%.

Other Food and Drugs Samples:—

131 Samples of various Foods and Drugs were taken during the year. All were reported by the Analyst as being genuine, but the following were commented upon:—

(a) One Sample of Canned Beef Steak and Vegetables—faulty label. Letter to manufacturer resulted in an amended label.

(b) One Sample of Milk Chocolate Gateau—the Analyst stated in his report—“the cake was depicted on the exterior carton as having a filling approximately 10% of the whole, but in fact the filling was a mere scraping of synthetic cream, about 1.5% of the whole.” The Manufacturer’s attention was drawn to this report and they promised to improve their product.

Food Complaint

No Food Complaints were received during 1960.

Meat Inspection

The following is a summary from the records of meat inspected at the two private slaughterhouses, and the amounts unfit for human consumption.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep or Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Total
Number killed ..	752	2	63	9,324	3,907	—	14,048
Number inspected	752	2	63	9,324	3,907	—	14,048
All Diseases except T.B. and Cyst. . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whole Carcases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Part Carcases or Organ condemned	166	1	3	513	118	—	801
% affected ..	22.07	50.0	4.76	5.50	3.02	—	5.7
T.B. ONLY:							
Whole Carcase ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Part Carcase or Organ ..	—	—	—	—	9	—	9
% affected ..	—	—	—	—	0.23	—	0.063
CYSTICERUS:							
Part Carcase or Organ affected ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases treated by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and Totally c'demned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Unsound Food

The following goods were voluntarily surrendered to the Public Health Inspectors as being unfit for human consumption:

				Cwts.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Tinned Meat	..	..	..	10	68	13
Raw Meat (Including Bacon)	..			—	96	0
Tinned Fish	..	..	..	—	17	3
Tinned Fruit	..	..	..	2	30	4
Tinned Milk	..	..	..	—	61	8
Miscellaneous Tinned Foods	..			2	95	6
Miscellaneous Groceries	..	..		1	2	10
Potatoes	..	..	..	1	64	0
TOTAL				19	99	12

All this unsound food was disposed of under the supervision of the General Assistant at the Albion Road Incinerator.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

During the year 474 complaints were received at the Public Health Department, and the work of the Inspectors may be summarized as follows:

Inspection of Food and Food Premises (visits paid):

Bakehouses	30
Butchers' Shops	35
Cafes	18
Confectioners	5
Dairies and Pasteurising Plants	18
Fish Shops	10
Food Complaints	9
Food & Drugs (Chemical & Bacteriological) Samples..	351
Grocers' Shops	102
Greengrocers' Shops	17
Ice Cream Dealers' & Ice Cream Manufacturers' Premises	21
Meat Inspection	597
Mobile Shops (Hawkers)	35
Canteens	14
Slaughterhouses	28
Miscellaneous Visits	88
Market Stalls	112

Housing (visits paid):

Slum Clearance Inspections	682
Environmental and Overcrowding Enquiries	58
Sanitary Fittings and Structural Defects	229
Water Supply and Pipes	52
Miscellaneous Housing Visits (Re-inspections, etc.) ..	840
Improvements Grants	112
Land Charges	165
Rents Act	35

General Sanitation (visits paid):

Accumulations	41
Atmospheric Pollution (Smoke Complaints and Observations)	132
Caravans, Fairgrounds, etc. .. .	81
Drainage and Sewerage .. .	245
Keeping of Animals, Birds, etc. .. .	6
Insect Pests	76
Public House Urinals .. .	5
Public Conveniences .. .	11
Public Houses .. .	12
Refuse Tips	8
Rodent and Vermin Infestation .. .	48
Unclean Premises	30
Water Supplies (Sampling, etc.) .. .	66
Watercourses	12
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits .. .	218
Swimming Baths	20
Factories and Outworkers (visits paid) .. .	52
Shops Act Inspections	50
TOTAL ..	4,776

METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS

I am indebted to the Council's Parks, Cemetery and Allotments Superintendent, W. R. Dadge, Esq., for the following information which was recorded during 1960 at Panteg Cemetery.

The following table summarises these records.

Month	Rainfall in inches	Number of rain days per month	Highest temp. per month °F	Lowest temp. per month °F
January	6.94	18	53	22
February	6.93	15	61	26
March	3.65	15	55	29
April	3.38	14	66	29
May	2.68	8	74	35
June	2.55	13	85	41
July	4.43	23	72	46
August	4.93	22	77	44
September	6.24	15	74	39
October	10.87	23	66	34
November	12.94	27	59	27
December	7.46	20	52	25

Total rainfall for 1960 = 73.00 inches.

Total number of rain days for the year = 213.

The rainfall for the previous years was as follows:—

1951 ..	59.85 inches	1952 ..	51.07 inches
1953 ..	47.23 „	1954 ..	63.34 „
1955 ..	51.17 „	1956 ..	42.99 „
1957 ..	52.34 „	1958 ..	56.96 „
1959 ..	58.76 inches		

Highest temperature for 1960 .. 85° F.

Lowest temperature for 1960 .. 22° F.

The year 1960 had the highest rainfall in living memory.

